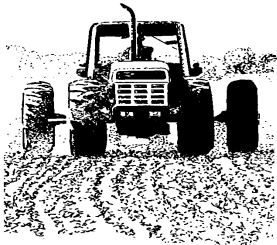


TENNESSEE WEEKLY
WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN



Released Weekly April - November

2005 Weather Crop 26

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Week Ending September 25, 2005

GREAT WEEK FOR HARVEST

A high pressure system provided summer-like conditions for the Volunteer State last week, allowing all 7 days for fieldwork. By the weekend, however, the remnants of Hurricane Rita moved into the middle and western portions of the State, providing much needed rainfall and cooler temperatures. East Tennessee, however, remained dry with crops and pastures suffering from the unusually high temperatures. Farmers took advantage of sunny weather to make good progress with harvest activities. With nearly all of the State’s corn mature, over three-fifths of the acreage for grain has been harvested and silage harvest was almost complete. Soybeans were dropping leaves well ahead of the normal pace and harvest was about two weeks ahead of schedule. Cotton continued to open bolls at a rapid pace and just under half of the crop has been defoliated. Nearly a tenth of the cotton acreage had been harvested by week’s end. Burley harvest moved closer to completion and was progressing on schedule, while stripping advanced slightly ahead of normal. Harvest for both dark fire-cured and dark air-cured types was slightly ahead of the normal pace as well.

As of Friday, topsoil moisture levels were rated 9 percent very short, 32 percent short, 57 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 9 percent very short, 28 percent short, 60 percent adequate, and 3 percent surplus. Last week, temperatures across Tennessee averaged above normal with average highs in the upper 80s to lower 90s. Rainfall was near to above normal in the western portion of the State and below normal elsewhere.

CROP PROGRESS: Through September 25, 2005					CONDITION: On September 23, 2005					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2004	Five Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc
Percent					Percent					
Corn - Mature	97	92	98	98	Soybeans	3	8	29	48	12
Corn - Grain Harvested	61	40	75	74	Cotton	0	3	22	58	17
Corn - Silage Harvested	96	92	97	97	Pastures	6	18	42	33	1
Soybeans - Dropping Leaves	80	64	53	48						
Soybeans - Harvested	20	14	14	8						
Cotton - Bolls Opening	90	74	72	83						
Cotton Defoliated	48	32	38	51						
Cotton Harvested	9	2	5	13						
Burley Tobacco Harvested	87	78	83	87						
Burley Tobacco Stripped	8	3	3	5						
Fire-Cured Tobacco Harvested	90	78	90	89						
Air-Cured Tobacco Harvested	98	85	99	95						

CORN: Although grain harvest continues to progress behind the five-year average, farmers made good headway last week. Corn for silage harvest was on pace to be completed within the next several weeks.

COTTON: Cotton harvest picked up speed last week. Ninety percent of the State’s cotton was opening bolls and nearly half of the acreage had been defoliated. The crop was rated in mostly good-to-fair condition.

SOYBEANS: Soybeans continued to develop well ahead of normal with a fifth of the acreage harvested. The rainfall received from the remnants of Hurricane Rita should benefit double-cropped soybeans. The crop was rated in mostly good-to-fair condition.

TOBACCO: Tobacco growers made excellent harvest progress last week. The majority of the State’s tobacco is now in the barns with no major problems reported. The lack of rain in the eastern portion of the State has not helped tobacco curing conditions, but burley stripped was still ahead of the five-year average.

PASTURES & HAY: Pastures remained dry in East Tennessee and the lack of rain was causing concerns about the quality of hay harvested as well. Many farmers were waiting for precipitation before proceeding with fall pasture sowing. Pastures were rated in mostly fair-to-good condition.

County Agent Quotes

“Combines ran all week throughout the county. Nurseries starting to dig plants but need rain.”

- J. Dale Beaty, Warren County

“Our pastures are stressed by the lack of rainfall and high temperatures.”

- James Griffin, Union County

TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION

For week ending: September 25th, 2005 (with comparisons)

LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION				GDD BASE 60F	
	Week Ending				Current Week	Rain	Current Since	Departure From	Since April 1	
	September 25, 2005									
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN	09/25/05	Days	January 1	Normal	Total	DFN
Ames_Plantation	96	61	80	+11	0.53	2	41.57	+2.90	2587	+284
Tri-City_RGNL_A	91	55	74	+8	0.00	0	30.25	-1.04	1833	+244
Brownsville_TN	94	64	80	+10	0.64	3	38.56	-0.04	2675	+629
Chattanooga/Lov	92	61	78	+9	0.00	0	37.20	-2.63	2494	+279
Clarksville_Sew	93	59	78	+11	0.00	0	36.39	-0.84	2492	+428
Cookeville	90	55	74	+8	0.00	0	32.66	-9.78	2011	+721
Covington	95	61	79	+10	0.28	1	38.95	+1.14	2484	+138
Crossville_AP	86	56	73	+9	0.00	0	35.24	-6.20	1789	+327
Dickson_AG	90	57	76	+8	0.61	1	40.32	+0.44	2088	-60
Dover_1W	91	58	76	+10	0.05	2	35.15	-3.58	2309	+472
Dyersburg	93	66	80	+10	0.15	2	35.21	-1.63	2672	+183
Erwin_1W	91	54	74	+10	0.00	0	33.26	-4.53	1715	-169
Huntingdon_Wate	91	59	78	+10	0.00	0	39.08	-0.03	2394	+439
Jackson_Exp_Stn	93	63	80	+11	0.00	0	42.96	+4.59	2550	+298
Kingston_AG	89	56	75	+9	0.00	0	39.44	-4.02	2080	+378
Knoxville_AP	91	59	76	+9	0.00	0	29.98	-5.53	2297	+385
Lewisburg	92	52	75	+8	0.00	0	37.25	-3.09	2182	+261
Lexington_TN	92	59	78	+9	0.00	0	37.96	+0.62	2372	+990
Linden	92	55	76	+9	0.05	1	36.28	-4.55	2303	+367
Martin	93	58	78	+11	0.61	2	35.77	-3.07	2451	+299
Mc_Minnville_Tn	90	58	77	+9	0.00	0	31.65	-8.00	2266	-123
Memphis_AG	97	62	81	+10	0.41	1	38.73	+1.02	2740	-44
Milan	94	54	76	+9	0.00	0	40.53	+0.43	2344	+241
Murfreesboro_5N	95	57	77	+10	0.00	0	34.85	-4.84	2360	-24
Nashville_Metro	91	60	78	+9	0.00	0	32.70	-2.74	2613	+347
Newcomb	90	57	74	+11	0.00	0	37.11	-3.83	1931	+555
Oneida	89	56	74	+11	0.00	0	33.82	-7.12	1921	-114
Pikeville	89	58	76	+8	0.00	0	29.84	-9.90	2150	+281
Portland_TN	89	59	76	+9	0.00	0	42.10	+3.87	2300	+419
Pulaski_Water_P	91	56	75	+6	0.00	0	40.58	+0.01	2192	-60
Savannah_6SW	93	61	77	+7	0.00	0	39.96	-1.68	2386	+390
Sparta_TN	92	56	76	+10	0.00	0	32.91	-8.02	2242	+619
Springfield	91	56	75	+9	0.01	1	36.83	+0.10	2229	+348
Springhill	95	52	76	+10	0.00	0	39.10	-1.25	2314	+401
Union_City	92	55	77	+10	0.13	3	37.02	-0.80	2276	+192
Waynesboro_TN	91	56	77	+10	0.06	1	37.90	-4.44	2275	+114

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period). GDD = Growing Degree Days.

Precipitation Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more. Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

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